

CLAIMS

1 SUB A1 X. A method for managing a project requiring a plurality of tasks performed on at
2 least one computer system by a plurality of users, comprising the steps of:

3
4 interactively defining a plurality of groups of users associated with the project;

5
6 interactively defining, for each of said plurality of groups of users, a respective
7 project tracking interface, each project tracking interface having a respective set of task
8 selections, wherein a first set of task selections of a first project tracking interface for a
9 first group of users is different from a second set of task selections of a second project
10 tracking interface for a second group of users;

11 associating a first user with said first group of users;

12 presenting said first project tracking interface having said first set of task
13 selections to said first user;

14 associating a second user with said second group of users; and

15 presenting said second project tracking interface having said second set of task
16 selections to said second user.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of interactively defining, for each of
2 said plurality of groups of users, a respective project tracking interface, comprises
3 interactively defining, for each task selection, a respective task description, whereby a
4 task selection for a first project tracking interface may have a first task description, and
5 the same task selection for a second project tracking interface may have a second task
6 description different from said first task description.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein each task selection displayed in a project tracking
2 interface includes a task status indicator.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said task status indicator is assumes one of a
2 plurality of colors, each color corresponding to a respective status.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of interactively defining, for each of
2 said plurality of groups of users, a respective project tracking interface, comprises
3 generating, for each of said plurality of groups of users, a respective interface definition
4 file, said interface definition files containing entries corresponding to tasks, wherein a
5 first interface definition file for defining said first project tracking interface contains a
6 respective entry for each task selection in said first set of task selections, and a second
7 interface definition file for defining said second project tracking interface contains a
8 respective entry for each task selection in said second set of task selections.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein each said entry in an interface definition file
2 includes a respective task description field, whereby a task selection for said first project
3 tracking interface may have a first task description, and the same task selection for said
4 second project tracking interface may have a second task description different from said
5 first task description.

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein each said entry in an interface definition file
2 includes a respective scope field specifying the scope of the task selection, whereby a task
3 selection for said first project tracking interface may have a first scope, and the same task
4 selection for said second project tracking interface may have a second scope different
5 from said first scope.

1 8. A computer program product for managing a project requiring a plurality of tasks
2 performed on at least one computer system by a plurality of users, said computer program
3 product comprising:

4 a plurality of processor executable instructions recorded on signal-bearing media,
5 wherein said instructions, when executed by at least one processor, cause at least one
6 computer to perform the steps of:

7 receiving interactive input defining a plurality of groups of users associated with
8 the project;

9
10 receiving interactive input defining, for each of said plurality of groups of users, a
11 respective project tracking interface, each project tracking interface having a respective
12 set of task selections, wherein a first set of task selections of a first project tracking
13 interface for a first group of users is different from a second set of task selections of a
14 second project tracking interface for a second group of users;

15 associating a first user with said first group of users;

16 presenting said first project tracking interface having said first set of task
17 selections to said first user;

18 associating a second user with said second group of users; and

19 presenting said second project tracking interface having said second set of task
selections to said second user.

1 9. The program product of claim 8, wherein said interactive input defining, for each
2 of said plurality of groups of users, a respective project tracking interface, comprises
3 input defining, for each task selection, a respective task description, whereby a task
4 selection for a first project tracking interface may have a first task description, and the
5 same task selection for a second project tracking interface may have a second task
6 description different from said first task description.

1 10. The program product of claim 8, wherein each task selection displayed in a project
2 tracking interface includes a task status indicator.

1 11. The program product of claim 10, wherein said task status indicator is assumes
2 one of a plurality of colors, each color corresponding to a respective status.

1 12. The program product of claim 8, wherein said step of receiving interactive input
2 defining, for each of said plurality of groups of users, a respective project tracking
3 interface, comprises generating, for each of said plurality of groups of users, a respective
4 interface definition file, said interface definition files containing entries corresponding to
5 tasks, wherein a first interface definition file for defining said first project tracking
6 interface contains a respective entry for each task selection in said first set of task
7 selections, and a second interface definition file for defining said second project tracking
8 interface contains a respective entry for each task selection in said second set of task
9 selections.

1 13. The program product of claim 12, wherein each said entry in an interface
2 definition file includes a respective task description field, whereby a task selection for
3 said first project tracking interface may have a first task description, and the same task
4 selection for said second project tracking interface may have a second task description
5 different from said first task description.

1 14. The program product of claim 13, wherein each said entry in an interface
2 definition file includes a respective scope field specifying the scope of the task selection,
3 whereby a task selection for said first project tracking interface may have a first scope,
4 and the same task selection for said second project tracking interface may have a second
5 scope different from said first scope.

1 ~~15.~~ A computer program product for managing a project requiring a plurality of tasks
2 performed on at least one computer system by a plurality of users, said computer program
3 product comprising a plurality of processor executable instructions recorded on signal-
4 bearing media, said instructions comprising:

5 an interface definition access function, said interface definition access function
6 accessing a project tracking interface definition, said project tracking interface definition
7 being one of a plurality of project tracking interface definitions, each said project tracking
8 interface definition being associated with a respective group of users of said plurality of
9 users, each project tracking interface definition having a respective set of task selections,
10 wherein a first set of task selections of said first project tracking interface definition for a
11 first group of users is different from a second set of task selections of a second project
12 tracking interface definition for a second group of users; and

13 a project tracking interface generator, said generator generating a project tracking
14 interface defined by a project tracking interface definition of said plurality of project
15 tracking interface definitions.

1 16. The computer program product for managing a project of claim 15, further
2 comprising:

3 an interactive interface definition function, said interactive interface definition
4 function interactively receiving and storing a plurality of said project tracking interface
5 definitions, each project tracking interface definition being associated with a respective
6 group of users of said plurality of users.

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